

Message Text

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ACTION SR-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 ORM-03 VO-03 INSE-00

SCA-01 SCS-03 SY-10 FBIE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SS-15

NSC-10 L-03 PRS-01 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 INRE-00 DRC-01 /112 W
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O R 251423Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4406

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 11314

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, PINS, CVIS, CZ, IT, LE (KUBKA, ROBERT)

SUBJECT: POTENTIAL ASYLEE OR REFUGEE, ROBERT KUBKA

REF: ROME 10065; STATE 189357

1. KUBKA INTERVIEWED AGAIN TODAY. AS PREVIOUSLY STATED, WE BELIEVE IT HIGHLY IMPORTANT MOVE KUBKA PRIOR DEPARTURE TOUR GROUP. WHEN HE IS FOUND MISSING AT DEPARTURE TIME, TOUR DIRECTOR WILL UNDOUBTEDLY NOTIFY POLICE AND, MOST LIKELY, CZECH EMBASSY. IF KUBKA STILL HERE, RESULTING SITUATION WOULD BE, AT THE LEAST, HIGHLY EMBARRASSING TO GOL AND PERHAPS TO THIS EMBASSY, AND COULD REPEAT COULD EVENTUALLY RESULT IN KUBKA'S REPATRIATION TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA. AS TOUR GROUP CHARTER LEAVES 5:45 A.M OCTOBER 2, KUBKA MUST DEPART OCTOBER 1 AT LATEST. WE PROPOSE SENDING HIM OCTOBER 1, PAA FLIGHT NO. 119, DEPARTING 1030.

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2. OUR PRINCIPLE REMAINING PROBLEM IS ITALIAN VISA.

ITALIANS TAKING RATHER HARD LINE. WILL ISSUE TOURIST VISA ONLY ON PRESENTATION OF PASSPORT WITH VALID VISA TO THIRD COUNTRY AND ONLY AFTER CLEARANCE FROM ROME WHICH TAKES MINIMUM OF EIGHT DAYS. TRANSIT VISA VALID FOR FIVE DAYS COULD BE ISSUED, BUT ONLY ON OUR ASSURANCES THAT WITHIN THIS PERIOD AMEMBASSY ROME WILL EITHER ISSUE VISA OR MOVE KUBKA TO THIRD COUNTRY, OR THAT AMEMBASSY ROME IS IN POSITION TO ARRANGE WITH GOI FOR EXTENSION OF STAY UNTIL VISA ISSUED.

3. FOR ROME: WHAT IS YOUR IMPRESSION? IN VIEW OF LARGE NUMBERS OF EASTERN EUROPEAN REFUGEES PROCESSED IN ROME UNDER 203(A)7, WE ASSUME THERE MUST BE A SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM. IF WE PURSUE TRANSIT VISA, CAN WE PROVIDE THE ASSURANCE REQUESTED BY ITALIAN EMBASSY? WE ARE NOT IN POSITION TO LEAN TOO HARD ON ITALIAN EMBASSY SINCE THEY WELL AWARE LOCAL CRITICISM OUR OWN 6 WORKDAY DELAY ISSUANCE VISAS TO ARABS UNDER BOULDER PROGRAM.

4. IN CONTRAST TO ITALIANS, AUSTRIAN EMBASSY ABLE ISSUE TOURIST VISA WITHIN 24 HOURS ON PRESENTATION OF VALID CZECH PASSPORT.

5. FOR VIENNA: PREVIOUS CABLES REPEATED TO YOU. IF WE UNABLE RESOLVE ISSUE RE ITALIAN VISA, COULD KUBKA BE PROCESSED AT VIENNA?

6. AS REQUESTED, WE QUESTIONED KUBKA IN DETAIL REGARDING MEMBERSHIP IN SSM, WHICH HE NOW TRANSLATES SOCIALIST YOUTH ORGANIZATION. HE ENTERED UNIVERSITY IN FALL OF 1969 AND WAS RELATIVELY PLEASED WITH ACADEMIC LIFE. THE ATMOSPHERE FOLLOWING THE 1968 EVENTS, HOWEVER, GRADUALLY RESTRICTED ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND, BY END OF YEAR HE FOUND THAT MANY COURSES BEING MODIFIED OR DROPPED. SUBJECT MATTER PRESENTED IN MANY COURSES RESTRICTED TO MARXIST-LENINIST POINT OF VIEW. AMERICAN LITERATURE, IN WHICH HE ORIGINALLY PLANNED SPECIALIZE, NO LONGER AVAILABLE. THESE CHANGES, AND GENERAL ALL PERVADING AIR OF RESTRICTION
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IN CSSR, LED HIM TO MAKE UP HIS MIND TO EMIGRATE SOONER OR LATER.

7. HE JOINED SSM IN FALL 1970. ALTHOUGH NOT NECESSARY FOR CONTINUED ENROLLMENT MANY ADVANTAGES AVAILABLE ONLY TO MEMBERS. SHOULD HE HAVE TO REMAIN IN CSSR, AND SEEK EMPLOYMENT, NON-MEMBERS WOULD HAVE LOWEST PRIORITY FOR JOBS. OF MORE IMPORTANCE, TRAVEL AND

SCHOLARSHIPS OUTSIDE COUNTRY AVAILABLE ONLY TO SSM MEMBERS. AS HE SPECIALIZING IN NORWEGIAN AS WELL AS ENGLISH, HOPED TO OBTAIN SCHOLARSHIP IN NORWAY. FURTHERMORE, HE STILL KEPT IN MIND FINAL GOAL OF EMIGRATION. ALSO, HE FELT SOCIAL PRESSURE TO JOIN

SINCE 90 TO 95 PERCENT ALL FOREIGN LANGUAGE STUDENTS MEMBERS. (HE STATES FOREIGN LANGUAGE STUDENTS MORE LIKELY JOIN THAN OTHERS SINCE THEY MOST INTERESTED IN FOREIGN SCHOLARSHIPS). HE THEN MET MISS BISHOP. AFTER SHE REFUSED ENTRY TO U. OF PRAGUE AFTER SEVERAL TRIES, HE BECAME MORE AND MORE DETERMINED FLEE CSSR. THUS, HE FELT HE MUST RETAIN MEMBERSHIP SSM AND HOPE FOR SOME CHANCE FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL TO FACILITATE ESCAPE.

8. KUBKA STATES HE IS OPPOSED TO COMMUNIST DOCTRINE. HIS MEMBERSHIP SSM FOR REASONS STATED ABOVE, NOT IDEOLOGICAL COMMITMENT. STATES HIS MEMBERSHIP WAS ROUTINE, THAT HE DID NOT HOLD OFFICE OR POSITION OF LEADERSHIP, AND THAT HE PARTICIPATED IN ACTIVITIES ONLY TO EXTENT NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN MEMBERSHIP IN GOOD STANDING.

9. RECOMMEND KUBKA'S ASSOCIATION WITH SSM BE CONSIDERED INVOLUNTARY IN THAT IT CONSISTED OF RANK AND FILE MEMBERSHIP IN MASS ORGANIZATION IN COMMUNIST COUNTRY. CLEARLY HIS MEMBERSHIP NECESSARY FOR TRAVEL, FOR FUTURE EMPLOYMENT AND FOR SOCIAL ACTIVITIES "WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF NORMAL HUMAN RELATIONSHIP" AS STATED APPA, 22 CFR 42.91(A)(28) NOTE 3.41(D).
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